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and of sale, building contracts, articles of partnership, and other business documents, those relating to real estate and corporations, and wills. The forms, which alone would be of lesser value, are accompanied by suggestions and warnings and points to be noted, as well as by problems stated for the purpose of testing the student's ability to do original work. The book may be cordially recommended to students of law as one that will help them materially in a difficult field of their work as young members of the bar.

David Werner Amram.

University of Pennsylvania Law School,
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SALE IN ROMAN DUTCH LAW. By G. T. Morice. Published by T. Mas-kew Miller, Cape Town, South Africa, 1919, pp. 247.

This book is primarily designed as a practical text-book on the South African law of sales. The author has, however, for purposes of comparison, appended to each chapter a reference to the English, French and German law on the topic immediately under discussion, that the lawyer may be "saved from imagining that those (rules) to which he is accustomed, are the necessary embodiment of wisdom." These references are, however, very brief, and are rarely accompanied by any discussion as to the relative merits of the Dutch and the other systems treated, the reader being left to draw his own conclusions from a mere statement of the differences.

The differences in the various systems of law are noted only in connection with the treatment of general principles of the Dutch law, it being manifestly impracticable in a book of this size to treat in detail the foreign law.

The book purports to cover the whole South African law of sales, including the statute law and judicial decisions, and makes the American reader yearn for a return to the day when the whole American law of sales could be treated in two hundred and fifty pages, with a citation of two hundred and seventy-six cases.

The subject is treated in seventeen chapters, the titles to which, with the exception of Chapter 14, "*Laesio enormis*," read familiarly to the American lawyer; and in a few States we have a modified form of the doctrine in the maxim, "a sound price demands a sound article." The doctrine has, however, been abolished by statute in Cape Colony and in the Free State and is in force only in the Transvaal and Natal.

In the French law the doctrine still exists in relation to sales of personal property, and the vendor who has been prejudiced to the extent of more than seven-twelfths of the value of the article sold is entitled to a rescission of the sale or to an increase of the price.

There is, of course, no mention of the subject of lien, a topic that plays so important a part in our law of sale; for since under the Roman and South African law title to property sold does not pass until delivery, there is no need for the doctrine of lien. Our author thinks that the same reason makes unnecessary the doctrine of stoppage in transitu, which has been introduced by statute into the law of two provinces—Cape Colony and the

Free State. But he admits that "there are exceptional circumstances in which it may prove of advantage" (p. 207). Indeed his treatment of this doctrine is not very satisfactory. If, however, the South African law was deficient in failing to give the seller the remedy of stoppage in transitu, it afforded to the buyer the valuable remedy of specific performance. This was not, as in English law, confined to cases where the thing sold possessed some special beauty, rarity or interest, but was operative as a matter of right in all cases.

The author's style is clear and concise and he has succeeded in a rather remarkable way in giving the reader in the short compass of two hundred and forty-seven pages, a readily understandable view of the South African law of sales with a comparative view of the salient points of the Roman, Roman-Dutch, English, French and German law of the subject.

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HANDBOOK OF THE LAW OF SALE OF GOODS. By John Delatre Falconbridge. Canada Law Book Company, Toronto, Canada, 1921, pp. xxiv, 174.

The English Sales of Goods Act of 1893, which codified the law of the sales of personal property in England, has been adopted, with modifications, in all the provinces of Canada, except Quebec. Ontario, the last province to adopt it, enacted it in 1920. The design of this book, as stated by the author, is to make the statute more readily available and more useful in Canada.

In order to carry out his first object—to make the statute more readily available—the author has reprinted the statute, section by section, with brief notations of the difference in language, where differences occur, between the English and Ontario statutes and the like statutes in force in the other provinces of Canada, and in the Uniform Sales Act in force in some of the United States. The arrangement sometimes follows the order of the sections of the English statute, sometimes that of the statute of Ontario, as seemed to the author best suited to the development of the subject matter.

To effectuate his second object there precedes or follows each section, explanatory matter, or a statement of the law applicable to the subject matter of the section, or both. These statements are, in the main, very brief statements of a general rule of law, the reader being referred to text books or decided cases for the details, variations, or application of the general rule.

The book is not a treatise on the law of sales, or even a horn-book; it is, as its name implies, a hand-book of the subject.

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